

II. Amendments to the Specification

On page 4 of the Substitute Specification, replace paragraph [0021] with the following amended paragraph [0021]:

[0021] Four cutting blades 20 are provided for extending in the respective slots 16a of the housing 16 in a manner to be described. To this end, the width and length of each blade 20 is slightly less than the width and length of each slot so that the blades fit in the slots with minimal clearance. The outer side surface of each blade 20 is continuous and the inner side surface has two ~~three~~ stepped portions 20a, a straight portion 20b extending from each stepped portion, and a tapered surface ~~20a~~ 20c extending from each stepped portion. The transverse cross-section of each blade 20 is beveled to form a cutting edge that cuts into material in a conventional manner when the blades are rotated about the axis of the housing 16 by the drive unit 12.

On page 5 of the Substitute Specification, replace paragraph [0024] with the following amended paragraph [0024]:

[0024] A portion of each blade 20, including the tapered surfaces ~~20a~~ 20c, extends through a corresponding slot 16a of the housing 16 and into the bore of the housing. The remaining portion of each blade projects radially outwardly from its corresponding slot 16a. As stated above, the width and length of each blade is slightly less than the width and length of each slot, and these dimensions are such to establish a minimal clearance between each blade 20 and its corresponding slot 16a sufficient to permit the blades to move in and out of the slots in a manner to be described.

On page 5 of the Substitute Specification, replace paragraph [0025] with the following amended paragraph [0025]:

[0025] The spacing between the adjacent conical surfaces 24a of the rod 24 is equal to the spacing between the tapered surfaces ~~20a~~ 20c of each blade 20, so that each conical surface 24a engages the corresponding tapered surfaces ~~20a~~ 20c of all four blades.

On the bottom of page 5 to the top of page 6 of the Substitute Specification, replace paragraph [0026] with the following amended paragraph [0026]:

[0026] Two axially spaced springs 30a and 30b are provided near the respective ends of the blades 20, and extend through corresponding notches formed in the blades. The springs 30 are in the form of helical extension garter springs that exert a inwardly-directed radial, or contracting, force in a conventional manner to normally urge the blades 20 radially inwardly so that the tapered surfaces ~~20a~~ 20c of the blades are urged against the corresponding tapered surfaces 24a of the rods 24.

On page 6 of the Substitute Specification, replace paragraph [0028] with the following amended paragraph [0028]:

[0028] Referring to Fig. 4A, if it is desired to adjust the blades 20 to increase the cutting diameter, the head 26b of the adjustment bolt 26 is manually rotated so as to cause the adjustment rod 24 to move downwardly as viewed in Fig. 4A until it reaches the position of Fig. 4B. In this position the corresponding movement of the conical surfaces 24a (one of which is shown in Fig. 4A and 4B) exerts a cam force against the corresponding four tapered surfaces ~~20a~~ 20c of the blades 20 (two of which are shown) to cause the blades to move radially outwardly from the position of Fig. 4A to the position of Fig. 4B. As a result, a larger cutting diameter is established. In the event it is desired to further change the cutting diameter, the head 26b of the adjustment bolt 26 is manually rotated in a manner to cause the adjustment rod 24, and therefore the blades 20, to move accordingly. It is understood that detents, indicia, or other conventional techniques can be utilized to enable the user to adjust the cutting diameter to one of a plurality of predetermined specific values.

On page 7 of the Substitute Specification, replace paragraph [0032] with the following amended paragraph [0032]:

[0032] 2. The number of surfaces 20a, 20b, 20c and 24a provided on the blades and/or the actuator rod, respectively, can be varied.